



PATENT  
Customer Number 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 4208-0113

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent No: 6,692,276 B1

Issued: February 17, 2004

Inventors : Kiyoshi ABE et al.

For: CARD CONNECTOR

# 31 / Prior  
Art  
Rt  
4/20/04

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**CITATION OF PRIOR ART UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.501**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.501, Assignee of the above-identified patent hereby submits the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449 so that they may be placed in the patent file.

The cited documents were cited during prosecution in corresponding European Patent Application No. 00971780.2. A copy of the Search Report from the European Patent Office is attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Office applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the patent and Assignee determines that the cited documents do not

constitute "prior art" under United States law, Assignee reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

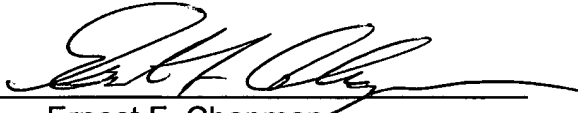
Assignee further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present patent.

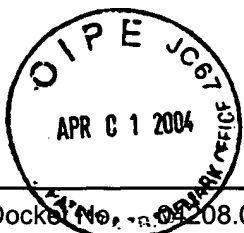
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 1, 2004

By:   
Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

OMB No. 0651-0011

Atty. Docket No. 04208.0113-00	Patent No. 6,692,276
Applicants Kiyoshi ABE et al.	
Issued February 17, 2004	Group:

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,718,609	2/17/98	Braun et al.			
	5,923,082	7/13/99	Takemura			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
WO 98/33138	7/30/98	PCT			
EP0947944A2	10/6/99	EPO			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EPO Search Report for European Patent Application No. 00971780.2.

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce